



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN NATIONAL LIVING IN KC PLEADS GUILTY TO METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican national living in Kansas City pleaded guilty in federal court today to his role in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

Juan C. Martinez, 26, a citizen of Mexico, pleaded guilty before U.S. Chief District Judge Dean Whipple this afternoon.

By pleading guilty, **Martinez** admitted that he conspired to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine from July 22, through Aug. 10, 2004.

Martinez was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Sept. 7, 2004, in Kansas City.

Under federal law, Graves explained, Martinez may be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to life in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$4 million.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph M. Marquez. The case was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

